

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method to operate a plurality of mobile terminals, comprising:

storing an editable object in the plurality of mobile terminals, and

simultaneously editing the editable object using at least some of the plurality of mobile terminals, where the mobile terminals that are used for editing the editable object send locally generated edit commands to other mobile terminals of the set of mobile terminals.

2. A method as in claim 1, where a memory area of the plurality of mobile terminals comprises a working memory area used during editing and a permanent storage memory area.

3. A method as in claim 1, where the memory area of a plurality of mobile terminals further comprises a personal area and a shared area.

4. A method as in claim 1, where at least one of the plurality of mobile terminals initiates an editing process whereby information comprising at least one of a hard copy or edited instance is sent from at least one mobile terminal to at least one other of the plurality of mobile terminals.

5. A method as described in claim 4, where the information sent comprises the user's Own Edited Instance of the editable object.

6. A method as described in claim 4, where the information sent comprises other user's Shared Edited Instances.

7. A method as described in claim 4, where the information sent comprises a user's own editing commands.

8. A method as described in claim 4, where the information sent comprises other user's editing commands.
9. A method as described in claim 4, where the information sent comprises contextual control information.
10. A method as described in claim 9, where the contextual control information conveys user information.
11. A method as described in claim 3, where the information in the shared area is automatically synchronized between all users.
12. A method as described in claim 3, where the information in the personal area comprises at least one edited instance of the editable object.
13. A method as described in claim 1, where individual ones of the plurality of mobile terminals indicate when modifications have been made to the editable object.
14. A method as described in claim 3, where at least one of the shared edited instances is transferred from the user's shared area to the user's personal area.
15. A method as described in claim 1, where an editable object is considered to comprise at least two parts comprising:
- a content part; and
- at least one comment field.
16. A method as described in claim 15, where a first comment field is designated a hard copy ID field.

17. A method as described in claim 16, where another comment field is designated an edited instance ID field.

18. A method as described in claim 16, wherein when the content of the content part is changed:

a new hard copy is formed and tagged with a new ID; and

the hard copy ID field is changed.

19. A method as described in claim 1, where each edited instance has a unique ID associated with it:

20. A method as described in claim 1, where each edited instance is a file.

21. A method as described in claim 1, where each edited instance may be appended to a hard copy.

22. A method as described in claim 1, where there is only one hard copy of the editable object.

23. A method as described in claim 22, where the hard copy is the original version of the editable object.

24. A computer program stored on a computer readable media for directing a computer to execute a method that comprises:

storing an editable object in a mobile terminal that is a member of a set of mobile terminals;

editing the editable object in the mobile terminal; and

transmitting edit commands to other members of the set of mobile terminals.

25. A mobile terminal, comprising a wireless transceiver, a data processor, and a memory for use in storing an editable object, editing the editable object and transmitting, via the wireless transceiver, edit commands to other members of a set of mobile terminals that also store and edit the same editable object.

26. A wireless communication system comprising a plurality of mobile terminals at least one comprising means for editing an editable object and for transmitting information that comprises edit commands, via the wireless communications system, to others of the plurality of mobile terminals for implementing collaborative editing of said editable object.

27. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where the mobile terminal further comprises a memory area divided into a working memory area and a permanent storage memory area, further logically divided into a personal area and a shared area, where information in the personal area includes at least one edited instance of the editable object.

28. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where the information further comprises a user's Own Edited Instance.

29. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where the information further comprises other user's Shared Edited Instances.

30. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where the information further comprises other user's editing commands.

31. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where the information further comprises contextual information to convey coordination, control and status information regarding the collaborative editing of the editable object.

32. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where the editable object comprises image data.

33. A wireless communication system as described in claim 32, where the editable object further comprises audio data.

34. A wireless communication system as described in claim 27, where information in the shared area is automatically synchronized between all users.

35. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where the plurality of mobile terminals indicate via the wireless communication system when modifications have been made to the editable object.

36. A wireless communication system as described in claim 27, where at least one of the shared edited instances is downloaded from the user's shared area to the user's personal area.

37. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where each editable object comprises at least a content part and at least one comment field.

38. A wireless communication system as described in claim 37, where a first comment field is designated a hard copy ID field.

39. A wireless communication system as described in claim 38, where another comment field is designated an edited instance ID field.

40. A wireless communication system as described in claim 39, wherein when the contents of the content part is changed a new hard copy is formed and tagged with a new ID and the hard copy ID field is changed.

41. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where each edited instance has a unique ID associated with it.

42. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where each edited instance is a separate file.

43. A wireless communication system as described in claim 26, where each edited instance is appended to a hard copy of the editable object.

44. A wireless communication system as described in claim 43, where there is only one hard copy of the editable object.

45. A wireless communication system as described in claim 44, where the hard copy is an original version of the editable object.